

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/754,924

Applicant(s)

SAKAI ET AL.

Examiner

Dov Popovici

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment and IDS filed on 1/12/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-43.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 07/521,674.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/12/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Dov Popovici
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record, namely (Sakata et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,016,114 and Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,760,458), does not disclose, teach or suggest, the claimed limitations of: selection means for selecting digital image information stored in an external memory, wherein the external memory stores digital image information based on output from a scanner unit and stores digital information based on output from a computer; setting means for manually setting a color characteristic for performing image formation of the digital image information selected by the selection means; wherein the setting means and the selection means share a same operation unit, and wherein it is possible to cause the display unit, which can execute a first display corresponding to the selection means, to execute a second display corresponding to the setting means, as claimed in independent claim 21. Independent claims 25 and 26 recite similar claimed subject matter, and are therefore found to be allowable for same reasons.

The prior art of record, namely (Sakata et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,016,114 and Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,760,458), does not disclose, teach or suggest, the claimed limitations of: a first display step of causing a display unit, which is provided for an apparatus comprising a printer unit, to perform a first display for selecting image information from a storage unit which can store a plurality of image information including at least one of image information based on output from a scanner unit and image information based on output from a

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computer; a second display step of causing the same display unit as the display unit for the first display to perform a second display for enabling a setting of a processing condition for processing the image information, as claimed in independent claim 32.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,760,458) teaches an image processing system for editing read-out images and a display for displaying transmitted images. The processing unit transfers edited image data to both a display and a printer at the same time.

Sakata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,016,114) teaches a digital copier apparatus with external laser card storage medium.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dov Popovici whose telephone number is 571-272-4083. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Dov Popovici
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625